

What has been, may be again:

Or an Instance of

London's Loyalty, *✓*
in 1640, &c.

BEING

The Substance of a *Traiterous Play*, Acted in
the *Guild-hall* of that City, by some of the
Aldermen and Chief Leaders of the Party,
in the Year 1642.

Together with

The *Pulpit-Doctrine* of those Times, which
brought on that *Unnatural Rebellion*. Publish'd
to let us see the Advantage we may expect from
those New-reviv'd Maxims, *That the Supreme
Power is in the People, and That
Resistance is Lawful.*

Address'd to the MODERN WHIGS.

Never before Printed.

*The Lord hath put a Lying Spirit in the Mouth of all
these thy Prophets.* 1 Kings xxii. 23.

LONDON: Printed by EDM. POWELL in Blackfriars,
and Sold by J. MOPHew near Stationers-hall. 1710.

Engl. Hist. Vol. 4.

SIR,

AT your Request, I here send you an Extract, from the Manuscript you saw in my hands, of some Transactions of those Rebellious Times, (Anno 1642.) and agree with you to let it be made publick, to convince some People that the same Restless Spirit of Profaneness, Blasphemy, Hypocrisie, Schism, Sedition and Rebellion, that always acted that Headstrong Party, is still as Predominant as ever, as is plain from their daily Practice of aspersing the Members of the ESTABLISH'D CHURCH with the Odious Names of *Papists*, *High-flyers*, &c. in all their Writings and Preachments. The Play here mentioned (you'll find) was first acted in the Guild-hall of your renowned City, by some of the *Aldermen* and leading Men of that Time, tho I hope you have none among that Honourable Body at present that any ways encourage such ridiculous as well as pernicious Practices. The Author seems to be a plain undesigning Person, as appears by the Drels it is publish'd in, and from the evident Matters of Fact (which I have heard confirm'd by several yet living) that run through the whole Volume, and seems to be the main Business in his view by compiling it, to let the whole Nation see the dismal Consequences that Rebellious Doctrine of *Putting the Reins of Government into the Hands of the People*, whenever they thought fit. You will find some of the Little Arts the Teachers in those Times made use of to excite the People to fly in the face of Authority, and subvert the Established Government in Church and State. There is a great deal more behind, and all relating to the Management in the City of *London*, during some of the most troublesome Years of those Unhappy Divisions. If you think fit to publish any more from the Manuscript, I shall send the whole up to you on first Notice; and in that or any thing else in my power you may freely command, Yours, &c.

"Tis

IT IS publickly known, that the mighty Bug-bear and Pretence of the *Malignant* [*Fanatical*] Party, to unhinge the Establish'd Government, were their continually buzzing in the Peoples Ears, That his most Excellent Majesty King *C H A R L E S I.* (of glorious Memory) and the Reverend Bishops of the *Church of England*, were endeavouring to introduce *Po-pery* and *Superstition*; tho nothing could be more *false* or *malicious*, as is now evident in the Eyes of all the World. But however, to bring their Ends about, the *Malignant Party* [*Fanaticks*] in the Parliament were indefatigable in their Endeavours to bring an *Odium* on the Reverend and Learned Clergy of the Establish'd *Church*, by ranking *Papists* with our *Clergy*, and the *Jesuited Priests* with our *Godly Bishops*, as it there had been a Concurrence of their Councils and Endeavours to extirpate the *Protestant Religion*, and to introduce *Po-pery* in its room; and this, tho ridiculous enough, their *Teachers* endeavour'd to instil into their *Auditors*, and did seduce many thousands of Ignorant Souls to their utter *Destruction*. But there were abundance of others, who knew my Lord *Archbishop of Canterbury*, and others of our *Holy, Learned and Reverend Bishops*, and *Prelatical Clergy* (as they called them) that have, by the Holiness of their Lives, and Learned Writings, more shatter'd the Walls of *Rome*, than all the *New Teachers* and *Simectymennians* were able to do: These could not be brought into a belief (notwithstanding all their Clamours) that our *Bishops* and *Clergy* could so far apostatize, as to join with the *Jesuits* and *Papists* to change our Religion into *Po-pery* and *Superstition*; tho we all plainly saw our *Anti-prelatical Teachers* were actually changing it into *Schism* and *Prophaneness*. [*Quod & nunc avertat Deus!*]

When they plunder'd the *Lord Peters* his House in *Essex*, they brought from thence to the *Guild-ball*, a *Trunk* or *Chest* of a *Po-pish Priest's*; wherein were a *Surplice*, a *Crucifix*, and divers other *Relicks* and *Po-pish Trinkets*

Trinkets; these they report to be the Bishop of *Ely's*, and brought from his House in the *Isle of Ely*.

They caused one of their Clerks in the *Guild-ball*, on set Days of the Week, for several Weeks together, to put on this *Surplice*, and with such Antick Behaviour as they had instructed him in, or his own Wicked Heart dictated to him, to shew what they pretended were the Bp. of *Ely's Relicks* and *Popish Trinkets*, kissing the *Crucifix*, elevating the *Host*, crossing his Breast, and the like. The Aldermen's Wives and City Dames with their Children, and great Multitudes of People, flocking daily to the *Guild-ball*, to see this Sham-Sight;

This was the *Prologue* to their *Play*, which they acted in the *Guild-ball* (in the Chamber where the *Common Council* usually sat) the Morrow after the Fast-day when the Earl of *Essex* was newly march'd out of *London* with his Wanton Army. *John Ven* acted the part of Chamberlain, to place the Aldermen's Wives and City Dames (who brought their Tickets) according to their Quality. The Door-keepers were their Serjeant Major-General *Skippon* and *Randal Manwaring*, Actors were the Committee of *Reformers*. Those being plac'd who had Tickets, the Doors were thrown open, which let in at least 300 Spectators.

The Scene *England*; the Plot, *To bring in Popery*. Principal Actors were, *Prince Cario*, King of *Utopia*, a Varlet habited to personate his Sacred Majesty.

The Arch-bishop of *Canterbury*.

The Bishop of *Ely*.

The Lord *Cottingham*.

Secretary *Windebank*.

Privy-Counsellours to their King of *Utopia*.

The Pope's *Nuncio*, with Relicks from his Holiness, which he presented to their King of *Utopia* and his Privy-Counsellours.

They seated their King in a Chair, and their Arch-bishop leaning at the back of it, and whispering in their King's Ear, their King turning his Head over his shoul-

der, and smiting. When they brought in their King speaking, he stammer'd in his speech, (an Infirmitie which his Majesty was sometimes troubled with) so to move Laughter in the Spectators.

When the Plot was far advanced, one brings their King of *Utopia* sad News, that all their Plot was overthrown, the Arch-bishop of *Canterbury* and Bishop of *Ely* were under the Arrest of the Parliament of *England*, and sent Prisoners to the *Tower*; that the Ld. *Cottington* and Secretary *Windebank* were fled the Kingdom; all their Relicks and Popish Trinkets seiz'd and sold at an Outcry, (which was done on the Stage, by crying out, *Who buys such or such a Popish Relick.*) And then (as if their ridiculous habiting, and traiterous personating the King's Majesty, under the Name of Prince *Cario* King of *Utopia*, were not Impiety enough) they laid their Sacrilegious hands on the *Book of Common Prayer*, and exposed it after the same manner, crying, *Who buys the Popish Mass-book, the Book of Common Prayer;* this was the Part of Alderm. *Warner* and Alderm. *Tows*, who repeated it several times.

At the next Court of Aldermen, Sir *George Whitmore* and Sir *Henry Garway* made Complaint to Alderman *Pennington* (then sitting as Lord Mayor in the right of Sir *Richard Gourney*, a worthy loyal Gentleman) of this Play so full of Profaneness and Treason, acted under their own Roof, on the morrow after a Fast-day, and when the Parliament had forbidden Plays; and desired that the Author and Actors might be brought to Punishment; but all in vain. Mr. Alderman could not find in his Protestation, that he was obliged to preserve the True Reformed Protestant Religion, or to maintain, with his Life, Fortune and Estate, his Majesties Person, State and Honour, against all Opposers; but he could find that all that had taken it were obliged to aid in this War, in his own Name, against his Sacred Person.

Thus

Thus was usher'd in that *Fatal Catastrophe* of Church and State. And no Wonder ; for in the Conventicles all over the Kingdom, (but especially in and about the City of London) was daily preach'd up that damnable Rebellious Doctrine, *That it was lawful (not only to Resist, but) to Depose or any ways Destroy their Lawful Sovereign, whenever they thought themselves aggriev'd* ; still making pretence to Religion and the Cause of God, as a Cloak for their Villainous Designs.

I shall set down a few Instances of the Sophistical Arguments which their Schismatical Teachers used to persuade the People into *Schism and Rebellion*, viz.

Edmund Calamy, who liv'd in Aldermanbury, (from whence this Pest first spread its Infection into all parts of the Nation) ; he glories, in his Recantation for using the Common Prayer, *That the notable Remonstrance against Prelacy (which maintains, That our Bishops were not only not an Order distinct from Presbyters, but that Bishops and Presbyters were all one,) was fram'd in his House.*

Another Article of the Remonstrance is, *That the Bishops are a Corrupt part of the Clergy, who cherish Formality and Superstition, as the most probable Means to support their Ecclesiastical Tyranny and Usurpation.*

John Sedgwick (preaching before Sir Gilbert Gerrard) says, *The Book of Common Prayer has sent more Souls to Hell, than the Sword or Pestilence.*

Mr. Case, administering the Holy Sacrament, made this impious Exhortation ; *The Worldly minded Man is not fit to receive this Sacrament, namely, He that doth not assist the Parliament, with his Life and his whole Estate, in the great Work of Reformation they have in hand, be doth (what in him lies) crucifie Christ again, stabs Christ to the Heart, mangles his Body, and eats and drinks Damnation to himself.*

Mr. Holmes preaching on a Thanksgiving-day for the Defeat of the Earl of Newcastle, affirms, *That next to the Redemption of the World by Jesus Christ, we ought to thank God for that Victory.* [Brave Saints indeed !]

Hugh

Hugh Peters, having shaken hands with his Text, and raised himself upright in his Pulpit, with his Hand laid cross his Breast, thus roars out ; O Joab, Joab, thou faithful Counsellour to David ; I love thee Joab, whom weepest thou for ? David ! a Boy, a bloody Cavalier, a Prince Rupert, a Plundering Cavalier. Come forth David, speak kindly to thy Servants, or I swear unto thee by the Lord it will be the worst thing that hath befallen thee from thy Youth until now. Come to thy Parliament, King Charles ; Wilt not come ? I swear unto thee by the Lord, it will be the worst thing hath befallen thee from thy Youth until now. These Blasphemous Cavaliers, when they shoot off their Ordnance, cry, Now have at the God of the Roundheads, and here is ten pounds to him that will invent a new Oath. I profess (continu'd he) my Hair stood on End to bear them. You will not believe me now ; and yet I (who ought to speak Truth) speak it of my own Knowledge. And will you be afraid to fight against these Blasphemous Cavaliers ? their Pikes have no Heads, they shoot nothing but Paper and Powder, 'tis God directs the Bullet ; and if thou should'st be kill'd, hast thou any harm ? to be sent to Heaven four or five years before thou should'st go thither, it may be twenty, and is there any harm in that ? [Quære, Whether any harm was done when he and his Associates went in a Swing ?

A Scotchman excited his Hearers in these Words ; If Jesus Christ were upon the Earth, and should have told me that the King would have granted you, what he hath granted us, I would not have believed him. Go on, ask the King what you will, for he must not deny you any thing, and if he should, if you go on in the War and should be slain, be you assured that the Breath shall no sooner go out of your Bodies but the Angels will stand ready to carry your Souls into Abraham's Bosom. [Rare Scotch Divinity !]

Mr. Burroughs, persuading his Auditory to advance the 100000 l. the Rebels were then to borrow of the City, tender'd this Security ; You have not only the Publick Faith of the two Kingdoms offered for your Security, but we

as Divines offer you the Faith of Heaven, the Faith of the Promises of Heaven, they are now offered to you.

By such Methods as these were carried on the Hellish design of extirpating Monarchy with Episcopacy; Cause as wicked as ever was espous'd by Man, which yet these vile Wretches profanely call'd *The Cause of God*.

Here feign'd Devotion bends
The highest things to serve the lowest Ends.
For if the many-headed Beast hath broke,
Or shaken from his Neck the Royal Yoke,
With Popular Rage, Religion doth conspire,
Flows into that, and swells the Torrent higher.
Then Power's first Pedigree from Force derives,
And calls to mind the old Prerogatives
Of free-born Man, and with a sawcy Eye
Searches the Heart and Soul of Majesty.
Then to a strict Account and Censure brings
The Actions, Errors, and Designs of Kings.
Treads on Authority and sacred Laws,
Yet all for G O D, pretending still his Cause,
Acting such things for him, which he in them,
And which themselves, in others, will condemn.

And thus engag'd, nor safely can retire,
Nor safely stand; but blindly Bold aspire;
Forcing their Hopes, ev'n thro' Despair, to climb
To new Attempts, disdain the present Time.
Grown from *Disdain to Threats*, from *Threats to Arms*,
Whilst they, the Sons of Peace, still sound th' Alarm.

Thus whether Prince or People seek Extremes,
Still Conscience and Religion are the Themes.

And whatsoever Change the State invades,
The Pulpit either forces or persuades.

Others may give the Fuel or the Fire,
But they the Breath that doth the Flames inspire.

There is a great deal more to the same purpose in the Manuscript, which shall be soon published, if this meet with Encouragement.

